

## **Libby GA Workgroup Meeting Notes**

### **August 19, 2003**

**Meeting attendees:** Tim Auer, Rita Windom, Houston Hanson, Don Clark, Scott Daily, Alfred Corda, Don Smart, Robyn King, Paul Leimbach, Vicki Munson, Steve & Nancy Jackson, Gary Hall, Russell Barnes, Bob Zimmerman, Davie Cronenwett, Ed & Carolyn Stamy, Peter Kitts, Eileen Carney, Tony Johnson, Bob Parker, Bruce Vincent, and Joe Chandler. Forest Service present were: Malcolm Edwards, Joe Krueger and Willie Sykes.

Ground Rules established by the group are:

- Listen respectfully
- Speak – one at a time
- No interrupting
- Comments – keep them short and to the point
- There are NO dumb questions

Wanted to know and/or discuss revision topics:

- 1) Fire Risk
- 1) Watersheds and Aquatic Species
- 2) Wildlife
- 3) Access and Recreation
- 4) Timber Production
- 5) Vegetation
- 6) Inventoried Roadless Areas and Proposed Wilderness Areas

### **Discussion:**

- Inventoried roadless areas and proposed wilderness areas and access and recreation and wildlife were the two topics that received the most support at the June 2003 meetings, but the group does not want to only focus on those, but the entire list.
- Need separate set of alternatives for each forest. There will be one EIS – two forest plans.
- Does each forest come and do field work on each other forest? Response: No. There's a lot of data sharing, conference calls meetings, etc between the two forests. Yearly assessment to see how things have changed in a year. AMS is a good starting point – document summarizes what has happened (current conditions).
- How are you going to have one plan for two forests that have so many management areas that are constantly changing – those allocations will be different, need to redefine the goals for Desired Future Conditions (DFS).
- Concern that decisions are already made.
- How is input coming from other workgroups/counties? Response: Brian Avery, District Ranger from Cabinet Ranger District in Sanders County has already had a meeting.
- There was a request for a specialist to give a presentation on each revision area to discuss existing conditions, trends, demographics, ramifications of actions, NEPA/NFMA process (provide maps if possible). Come prepared to talk about Libby GA and issues, which may be applicable to whole forest.
- Request for specialist to give definition to the term what is “healthy” for their particular area of expertise.
- Request for definitions to Forest Service jargon – provide definitions/abbreviations.
- Request for a map to show what's available – suitable vs. non-suitable, roadless and wilderness – for the Libby Geographic Area.

- Request for one map to show access issues – open/closed/seasonal/ghost roads and trails (suggestion was made to have a tricolor map to show differences)
- Need wildlife security layer – to show wildlife issues.
- In the 1987 Forest Plan, 93% recreational issues – now it's an access issue – people want to come in and discuss what has changed.
- The 1987 Forest Plan has not been implemented – it fell short of its intended goals.
- Request to bring USFWS here to discuss decision space.
- Need copies of AMS to all attendees and copies of the 1987 forest plan on CD, if available.
- Request to audio tape the next meeting.
- Request for a facilitator and recorder at subsequent meetings.
- Request for the website: [www.fs.fed.us/kipz](http://www.fs.fed.us/kipz). Attendees were advised to go the website to find documents such AMS and 1987 Forest Plan.
- Request to have team members' names and info on the web.
- All of the requests and needs are being addressed depending on forest personnel time and other commitments for the subject matter discussions.
- Malcolm will provide a notebook to attendees to keep workgroup material in (similar to what the RAC has).

Next Libby GA Workgroup meeting is scheduled for September 23, 2003 at the Ponderosa Room at 6:30 p.m.